

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application and have been examined. Claims 4, 6-7, 9, 11, and 14 are allowed. Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, and 12-13 are objected to for informalities, but are allowable if the objections are overcome. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The objection to claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 12, and 13

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 12, and 13 are amended to correct informalities and to overcome the objections made by the Examiner, and these amendments are not otherwise intended to narrow the scope of the original claims as filed. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to allow claims 1-3, 5, 6, 10, 12, and 13, as amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 15 stands rejected under § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,822,961 to Constantinof et al. ("Constantinof") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,275,493 to Morris et al. ("Morris"). Claim 15 is herein amended to require:

dynamically adjustable ATM switched virtual connections (SVC)
for subscribers connected to a bidirectional access network,
wherein an ATM core network and the bidirectional access
network are interfaced.

The amendments to claim 15 contain no new matter, and are supported in the originally-filed specification at, e.g., p. 4 ¶ 1, p. 6 ¶ 10, and p. 7 ¶¶ 1-2.

It is respectfully submitted that the proposed combination of Constantinof in view of Morris fails to teach or suggest that an "ATM core network and the bidirectional access network are interfaced," as recited in amended claim 15. In particular, Constantinof does not teach or suggest any such interface, and Morris does not compensate for the foregoing deficiency of

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Constantinof. The artisan of ordinary skill thus would not have (and could not have) combined the applied references in the manner described by the Examiner to achieve the subject matter of independent claim 15, as now amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of claim 15.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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